

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants hereby elect Group I, drawn to a data processing system for artificial intelligence comprising reasoning under uncertainty, with traverse. Claims readable thereon include claims 1-8.

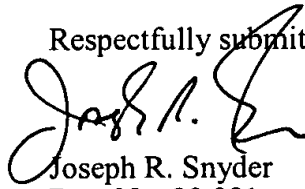
Applicants maintain that the restriction requirement is improper. Under MPEP § 803.01, there are two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions:

- (A) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and
- (B) there must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is required.

Applicants maintain that there is no serious burden on the Examiner to search Group I and Group IV (claims 1-8 and 17-24) in their entirety. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner join Groups I and IV and examine the claims on their merits.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request early action on the merits. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph R. Snyder
Reg. No. 39,381

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 925-472-5000
Fax: 415-576-0300
JS:js

60109483 v1